

Monitoring to Ensure Protection

NASA's Environmental Sampling Program

Type	Frequency	Analyzed For
Air Air Sampling Ambient continuous flow monitoring; upwind, downwind, and at facility. Environmental TLDs - thermo luminescent dosimeters detect radiation in environment.	6 per week	These filter elements are analyzed on-site by NASA and at an off-site certified lab for gross (total amount, not nuclide-specific) alpha and beta activity.
	Monthly	Composite air filters are sent off-site for gross alpha and beta activity and for 8 indicator metals (commonly found in Reactor Facility building materials).
	6 per month	Background radiation levels
Surface Surface Water Sampling From streams	6 per month	An off-site certified lab analyzes for gross alpha and beta activity.
Sediment Sediment Sampling	6 per month	An off-site certified lab analyzes gross alpha, beta and gamma activity.
Ground Groundwater Sampling 10 "shallow" wells (10 - 25 feet deep) 5 "deep" wells (40 - 80 feet deep) 4 building sumps	3 sampled monthly, all sampled annually	An off-site laboratory analyzes for gross alpha and beta activity.
	3 sampled monthly, all sampled annually	
	1 sampled monthly, 1 quarterly, all annually	

Quality Control Sampling

NASA's rigorous quality control sampling is used to verify and assure the integrity of its environmental sampling program.

To date, results of air, sediment and water samples have been similar to normal background radiation levels.



Workers conduct routine environmental sampling.